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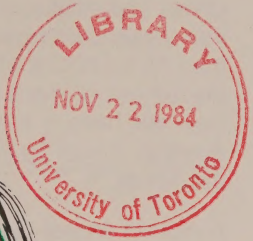
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Driving your MOPED* in Ontario

*MOTOR-ASSISTED BICYCLE

YOU AND YOUR MOPED

WHAT IS A MOPED?

Under The Highway Traffic Act, a moped means a motor-assisted bicycle that must not weigh more than 55 kg (120 lbs.), it may not have a piston displacement of more than 50 cubic centimetres; it may not have a hand or foot-operated clutch or gearbox driven by the motor transferring power to the wheel.

A moped (motor-assisted bicycle) must also have pedals which are operable to propel it at all times. And it must not be able to attain a speed greater than 50 km/h (30 m.p.h.) on level ground, within a distance of 2 km from a standing start.

LICENSING AND INSURANCE

Licence plates are required for mopeds. Owners will receive a plate similar to a motorcycle plate which must be attached to the rear of the vehicle. Under the "Plate to Owner" system, you retain your licence plate when you sell or scrap your moped, mounting it on your next vehicle. For your validation sticker, renewals occur on individual birthdays when you pay for a 12-month period.

Drivers of mopeds must be in possession of an Ontario driver's licence (any class) including Class M.

When applying for licence plates, the owner must establish ownership and show the bill of sale from the dealer. The owner must provide proof of liability insurance. Ontario has Compulsory Automobile Insurance. You must complete a written declaration of insurance at the time of vehicle registration.

In addition, legislation requires the dealer to provide the moped purchaser with a certificate, guaranteeing that the moped complies with the definition of a motor-assisted bicycle under The Highway Traffic Act.

KNOW AND OBEY THE RULES OF THE ROAD

MOPEDS ARE PROHIBITED

On expressways and freeway-type highways such as the 400 series, the Queen Elizabeth Way, and the Queensway (Ottawa).

SIGNALLING

You must signal before turning, changing lanes, stopping or slowing down.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

At intersections where there are no lights or traffic signs, yield the right-of-way to traffic approaching from the right. At intersections with stop signs come to a full stop. Wait till the way is clear of other vehicles and pedestrians before proceeding.

Coming out of a driveway, yield the right-of-way.

Pedestrians legally using an intersection have the right-of-way.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS

Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Slow down or stop if necessary. Don't pass another vehicle within 30 m (100 ft.) of the crosswalk.

FLASHING SIGNAL LIGHTS

Flashing red means stop, proceed when it's safe to do so.

Flashing amber means slow down and proceed with caution.

Flashing green means you can proceed while opposing traffic is stopped.

NO PASSENGERS

It is illegal for any moped driver to carry a passenger on his vehicle.

16-YEAR-AGE LIMIT

It is illegal for anyone under 16 years of age to operate a moped on Ontario roadways.

LOCAL LAW

Municipalities have the authority to ban motor-assisted bicycles on roadways under their jurisdiction where the speed limit is 80 km (50 m.p.h.) or more.

HELMETS

All moped drivers must wear an approved helmet that meets the motorcycle helmet regulations. They must meet the standards of the Canadian Standards Association, Snell Memorial Foundation, the British Standards Institute or the United States of America Federal Motor Safety Standard 218. Helmets must bear the appropriate monogram or certificate.

TURN WITH CARE

A moped is one of the smaller vehicles on the road.

Making a turn at a busy intersection can be hazardous because it is difficult for motorists and commercial drivers to see you.

- Don't decide to turn at the last minute.
- Check traffic, signal, and move into the proper lane.
- Signal your turn well ahead of the turning point and hold the signal until you are ready to start the turn. Put both hands on the handle-bars when making the turn.
- Complete your turn in the proper lane.

Make sure your moped is in safe operating condition. After dark or in poor visibility make certain motorists can see you. Use light, reflector and reflective tape on your vehicle. Wear something light-coloured. Night or day, drive defensively.



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